

Appl. No. 10/807,474
Continuation of 09/929,526
Client Ref.: 50R4671
Docket No.: 020699-004620US

Date: October 16, 2007

Appl. No. : 10/807,474
Applicant : SAMRA, et al.
Filed : 3/22/2004
Title : COLLABORATIVE COMPUTER-BASED PRODUCTION
SYSTEM INCLUDING ANNOTATION, VERSIONING AND
REMOTE INTERACTION
TC/A.U. : 2141
Examiner : COULTER, Kenneth R.
Docket No. : 020699-004620US (50R4671.02)
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Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Notification of non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed
September 21, 2007, Applicant respectfully resubmits this corrected Appeal Brief.

APPEAL BRIEF

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Real Party in Interest

The Real Party in Interest is SONY Corporation and SONY Electronics, Inc., the assignee of record.

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Related Appeals and Interference

There are no related appeals and interferences.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-8 and 14-22 are pending in the present application. Claims 9-13 are canceled, claims 1-8 and 14-22 are on appeal.

Status of Amendments

Applicants have filed an amendment with this appeal brief. The amendment is to claim 18. The amendment was denied entry by the examiner.

Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

In claim 1, signals from a user are accepted to select a frame in the production. *See specification*, page 7, par. 39. The annotation information and annotation marker is created. *See specification*, page 7-8, par. 33. Annotation information may be stored in association with selected frames in a plurality of frames of a production. *See Specification*, page 5, par. 31. The annotation markers show a visual relationship of the annotation information's relevance to the frame. For example, the annotation marker may tell the user that the annotation is intended to relate to the frame underlying the annotation marker only or that the associated annotation may be most relevant to the underlying frame. Also, the annotation marker may be a dot with a forward-pointing arrow to indicate that the annotation is pertinent to this frame and onward through the plurality of frames. Other visual relationships may also be appreciated. *See specification*, page 5, par. 33.

In claim 14, annotation information may be stored in association with selected frames in a plurality of frames of a production. *See Specification*, page 5, par. 31, page 7, par. 43.

In claim 15, an annotation marker may be displayed in a frame when a frame is displayed during playback of the plurality of frames. *See Fig. 1A and specification*, page 5, par. 32 and 32.

In claim 19, during playback, an annotation marker associated with a frame is determined. *See Specification*, page 5, par. 30-31. The frame and the annotation marker are displayed where the annotation marker has a visual relationship to the frame. *See Specification*, page 5, par. 31-33. Input is received and an action is performed in response to selecting the annotation marker. *See Specification*, page 6, par. 36, page 8, par. 45.

Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

1. Whether claim 18 is unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §112.
2. Whether claims 1-8 and 14-22 are unpatentable over Matsuzawa et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,085,185, hereinafter “Matsuzawa”) under 35 U.S.C. §102(c).

Argument

Section 112 Rejections

Claim 18

In an amendment after final, Applicants have amended claim 18 to read “an action”. Applicants submit that claim 18, as amended, now complies with the requirements of Section 112. The amendment was denied entry by the Examiner. Applicants request entry of the amendment if all other issues are resolved by the appeal.

Section 102 Rejections

Claims 1 and 19

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Matsuzawa. Applicants submit that Matsuzawa fails to disclose or suggest that an annotation marker is displayed with the frame when the frame is displayed during playback of the plurality of frames in the production, the annotation marker showing a visual relationship of the annotation information’s relevance to the frame.

The final rejection stated that Matsuzawa discloses that a user puts an annotation to a specific range of a medium and the system registers an annotation object comprising the object ID of the target medium, specific range, and annotation information in a table. Figs. 4-5 in Matsuzawa as referenced in the final rejection show a table that is storing the annotation information. This table may be stored and may be later viewed. However, applicants submit this does not disclose or suggest that the annotation markers are displayed with the frame when the frame is displayed during playback of the plurality of frames in the production. Matsuzawa is directed towards the retrieval of recording material without requiring manual steps. *See Matsuzawa*, col. 2, lines 22-27. What is shown in Figs. 4-5 is a table that is created to summarize the annotation information. This table is not the production of frames nor is it displayed during playback of the plurality of frames.

The table may include a range of values for frames. However, this table is not shown during playback of the plurality of frames. Rather, Matsuzawa might retrieve the range of frames and play them back. As shown in Fig. 4, the table shows a range in columns 703 and 704. However, this table is not used when playback of a production is performed.

Also, Fig. 5 shows a thumbnail in the table. However, this thumbnail is extracted from the video. See *Matsuzawa*, Fig. 17. Thus, the annotation information is not displayed during playback of the production.

Also, Matsuzawa does not disclose or suggest the annotation marker shows a visual relationship of the annotation information's relevance to the frame. Fig. 5 and 17 are cited in the final office action as disclosing this element. Fig. 5 in Matsuzawa shows a table and fig. 17 shows an extraction process. There is no visual information that shows the relevance to the frame in Figs. 5 and 17. Fig. 5 shows an annotation management table. The table does not include annotation information that would show a visual relationship when displayed with the frame during playback of the frame. In fact, the annotation information shown in the table is not displayed with the thumbnail during playback. Even if the table is considered playback of the thumbnail (it is not), the information does not show a visual relationship of the annotation information's relevance to the frame. As described in the specification in paragraphs 31-34, the annotation marker tells a user how the annotation information is intended to relate to the frame underlying the annotation marker displayed. For example, in embodiments of the present invention, the annotation marker may indicate that the annotation information is only relevant to the underlying frame. Also, the annotation marker may indicate that the annotation information may be relevant to the underlying frame and also additional frames, such as frames subsequent to the underlying frame. In one embodiment, the visual information may be a dot with a forward-pointing arrow to indicate that the annotation is pertinent to this frame and onward through the plurality of frames. Other visual relationships may also be appreciated. Accordingly, Matsuzawa does not disclose or suggest a visual relationship as claimed.

Applicants submit that claim 19 should be allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed with respect to claim 1.

Claim 14

Matsuzawa does not disclose or suggest that the annotation marker is stored as part of the frame in the production. The final rejection states that Figs. 1-6 and col. 4, lines 30-31 disclose this element. Figs. 1-6 show tables that may be stored in media. However, applicants submit that this does not disclose or suggest that the annotation marker is stored as part of the frame in the production. Rather, these tables are separate from the frames of the production. Also, these tables are used to retrieve parts of the production and are not part of the production. *See Matsuzawa*, col. 2, lines 22-27. Thus the annotation information is not stored as part of the frame in the production. Also, in Fig. 5, a thumbnail may be stored in the table. However, this is not storing an annotation marker as part of the frame in the production. As claimed, the annotation information is part of the information that makes up the frame.

Claim 15

Matsuzawa does not disclose or suggest that the annotation marker is displayed in the frame being displayed. The rejection states that Figs. 2-6 and 17 disclose this element. Figs. 2-6 of Matsuzawa show tables that include annotation information. Fig. 17 is a flow chart for extracting thumbnails. Nowhere in these figures is it disclosed or suggested that the annotation marker is displayed in the frame being displayed. As shown in Fig. 5, the thumbnail is shown in a column 706. None of the annotation information in the table is displayed in the thumbnail. If the thumbnail was a picture, then the annotation information would be displayed in the picture. Matsuzawa does not disclose or suggest this.

Claims 2-8 and 14-18 and 20-22

Applicants submit that claims 2-8 and 14-18 and 20-22 depend from claims 1 and 19 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

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Claims Appendix

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for annotating an item in a user interface of a media production system, the method comprising
accepting signals from a user input device to select a frame in a plurality of frames of a production being processed by the media production system;
creating annotation information and an annotation marker; and
storing the annotation information in association with the selected frame of the production, wherein the annotation marker is displayed with the frame when the frame is displayed during playback of the plurality of frames in the production, the annotation marker showing a visual relationship of the annotation information's relevance to the frame.
2. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising
accepting signals from a user input device to create the annotation information.
3. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the annotation information includes text information.
4. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the annotation information includes capture of drawing information.
5. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the annotation information includes audio information.

6. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the annotation information is automatically generated by a process executing on a digital system.

7. (original) The method of Claim 6, further comprising
wherein the annotation information is automatically generated at a predetermined time.

8. (original) The method of Claim 6, further comprising
wherein the annotation information is automatically generated upon the occurrence a predetermined event.

9-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the annotation marker is stored as part of the frame in the production.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the annotation marker is displayed in the frame being displayed.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the annotation marker indicates one or more additional frames that are relevant to the annotation information.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the annotation marker is associated with an action that is performed when the annotation marker is selected.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises displaying the annotation information.

19. (Previously presented) A method for displaying a production in a user interface of a media production system, the method comprising

during playback of the production, wherein the production includes a plurality of frames, determining when an annotation marker is associated with a frame in the plurality of frames;

displaying the frame and the annotation marker, wherein the annotation marker shows a visual relationship of annotation information's relevance to the frame;

receiving an input selecting the annotation marker; and

performing an action with the annotation information in response to the selecting of the annotation marker.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the action comprises displaying the annotation information.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the annotation marker indicates one or more additional frames that are relevant to the annotation marker.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the annotation marker is displayed in the frame being displayed.

Evidence Appendix

NONE

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Related Proceedings Appendix

NONE